

Some Threads

Possible plot for a short novel.

- (1) The 1952 UFO events over Washington led to the Robertson investigation, sponsored by the Central Intelligence Agency.
- (2) The CIA is known to be interested in Soviet exobiologists; indeed to the exclusion of considering data as presumably interesting as Chinese nuclear weapons.
- (3) The National Security Agency invites an astronomer for an all-day seminar on Communication with Extraterrestrial Intelligence and then at a later time has its leading cryptanalyst<sup>ist</sup> arrange a quiet coffee in Washington with that same astronomer.
- (4) A Time magazine reporter repeats a story told to him by a physiologist employed at the Manned Spacecraft Center, Houston. The physiologist claims that he and a physician were sent to investigate reports of a remarkable faith healer in Northern Brazil -- a healer since written about in national news magazines. His diagnosis was made by examining the eyes of his patient and surgery was accomplished in the absence of anesthetics with a pen-knife.

One hypothesis the physiologist was asked to check out on his visit to North Brazil was the possible extraterrestrial origin of the faith healer. The organization sponsoring this trip: The Cental Intelligence Agency.

- (5) Tentative conclusion: There is, probably on a small scale, a secret effort in Washington to examine the possibility of extraterrestrial intelligence -- particularly of visits to Earth of extraterrestrial intelligence. The political motivation must be (a) to keep tabs on potentially socially disruptive events and (b) to see if some national advantage can be secured from preempting such contact. However the use of the physiologist who cannot keep his story to himself, at best a part-time employee, suggests that the effort is not at a very high level.
- Code name: Falling Star